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Applicant's Name: V. J. Flanigan

Serial No.: 10/081,521 Examiner: Alexis A. Wachtel

Filing Date: 02/22/02 Art Unit: 1768 Confirmation No.: 2948

Application Title: PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR DESTRUCTIVE  
DISTILLATION OF RUBBER

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

VJF 6851.1

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Application of V. J. Flanigan

Art Unit 1764

Serial No. 10/081,521

Filed February 22, 2002

Confirmation No. 2948

For PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR DESTRUCTIVE DISTILLATION OF RUBBER

Examiner Alexis A. Wachtel

November 10, 2005

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

SIR:

In response to the Final Office action mailed October 19, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the following remarks.

Claims 19-22 and 26-35 are currently pending in the application.

Applicant acknowledges allowance of the subject matter of claims 19, 20 and 26-33.

Claims 21, 22, 34 and 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,230,777 (Jarrel) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,054,323 (Troxler et al.) and U.S. Patent No. 4,881,947 (Parker et al.).

The undersigned attorney appreciates the courteous telephone conference with the Examiner Wachtel on November 9, 2005. As noted in that telephone conference and acknowledged by the Examiner, the Troxler et al. reference, which issued on April 25, 2000 based on a U.S. application filed June 28, 1998,

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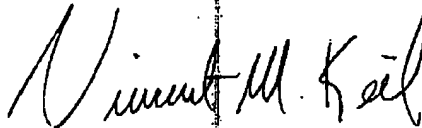
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is not prior art against the invention claimed in this application which claims priority to an application filed November 28, 1994. Accordingly, rejection of claims 21, 22, 34 and 35 based on the Troxler et al. reference is without merit. Pursuant to the Examiner's request, applicant is filing this response after final with the expectation that it will be entered.

In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and solicits allowance of the pending claims. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney should any issues remain unresolved.

Respectfully submitted,



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